

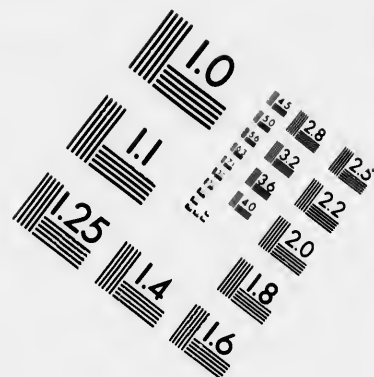
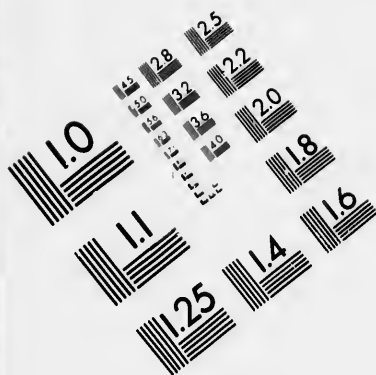
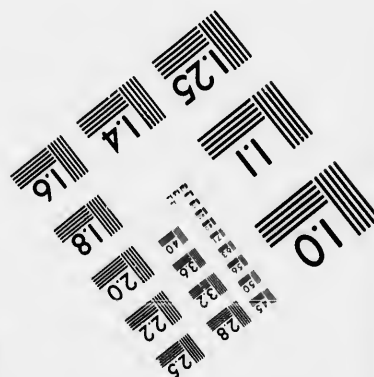
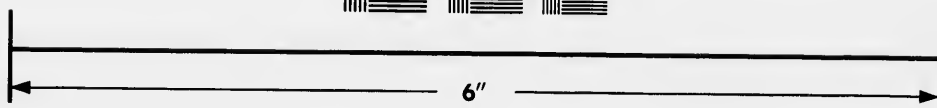
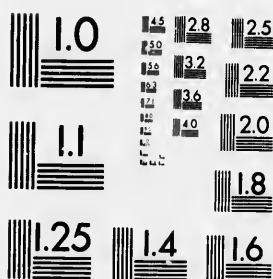


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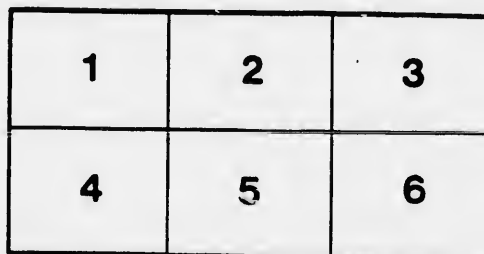
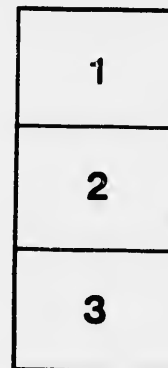
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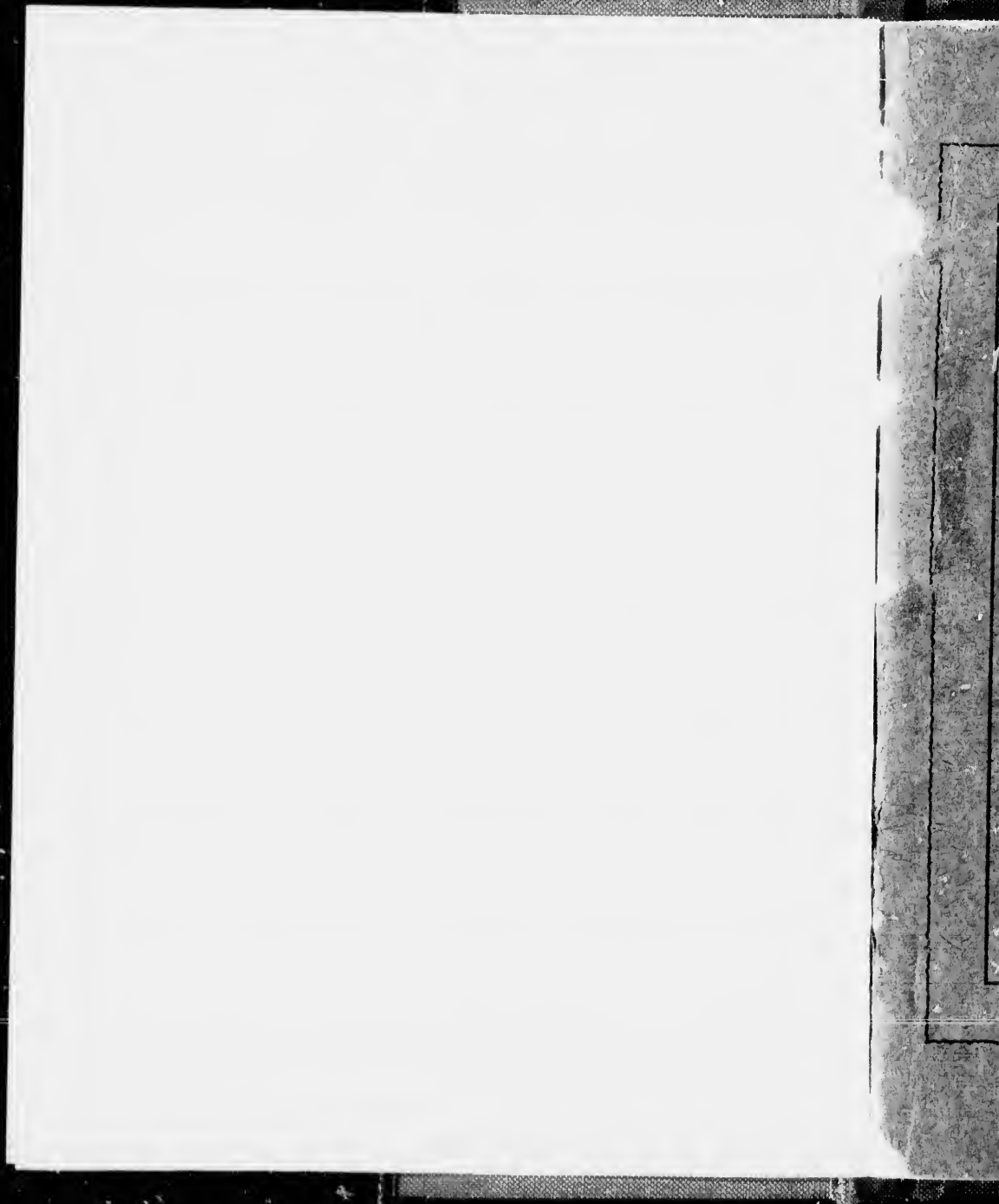
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The

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CONSTITUTION
COUNCIL
PRESIDENT

The Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada

1898



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The Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada

President :

MAJOR GENERAL E. T. H. HUTTON, C.B., A.D.C. to the Queen,
Commanding the Canadian Troops.

Vice-Presidents :

Lieut.-Col. H. H. McLean, 62nd Fusiliers	St. John, N.B.
Lieut.-Col. F. Whitley, D. of C. R. C. Hussars	Montreal, Que.
Lieut.-Col. J. I. Davidson, 48th Highlanders	Toronto, Ont.
Lieut.-Col. The Hon. J. M. Gibson, 13th Battalion A. D. C.	Hamilton, Ont.

Council :

Lieut.-Col. J. Mason, R. O.	Toronto, Ont.
Lieut. Col. J. B. MacLean, D. of Y. R. C. Hussars	Montreal, Que.
Lieut.-Col. Labelle, 65th Battalion	" "
Lieut.-Col. Jones, Royal Rifles	Quebec. "
Major W. C. MacDonald, 48th Highlanders	Toronto, Ont.
Lieut.-Col. Starke, R. O.	Montreal, Que.
Lieut.-Col. Bell, 57th Battalion	Peterborough, Ont.
Lieut.-Col. Busteed, Victoria Rifles	Montreal, Que.
Lieut.-Col. Hodgins, G. G. F. G.	Ottawa, Ont.
Major J. S. Hendrie, 2nd Brigade Division F. A.	Hamilton, Ont.

Secretary-Treasurer :

Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, R. O., 505 Board of Trade . . . Montreal, Que.

PREFACE

The Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada

*PREFACE by Major General Hutton, C.B., A.D.C. to the Queen,
Commanding Canadian Troops.*

PRESIDENT of the ASSOCIATION.

It was with great pleasure that I accepted the invitation of the Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada to become its President. I welcome all, and every effort for the welfare and improvement of that Force which it is my great privilege to command, the more so as it is well recognized by every one interested in the development of Canada as a nation that a corresponding development is required in that Force to which its defence is entrusted. Public opinion in Canada as in other colonies with responsible government under the Crown realizes with a growing sense of individuality that each and every part of the empire must not only insure its own defence, but must be prepared, when called upon to share in the defence of that empire to which all owe their birth. If public opinion thus expresses itself with no uncertain sound, we in Canada may look forward to the evolution of a Canadian Army which should be worthy of the Canadian people; a militia army indeed but one which shall be trained, equipped and complete in all its parts, and thus equal to any crises which may call it into being.

The Officers' Association and other kindred institutions can do much to further this consummation, but they can do more by concentrating their energies. It is my privilege to be Patron of the older institution in Canada, the Canadian United Service Club, and in my official capacity with both I commend to the members of the Officers' Association my earnest hope that an amalgamation of the two may be effected.

The Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada.

THE FIELD OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF CANADA, was organized and a constitution adopted at Ottawa in March 1898, by a number of Militia Officers, for the purpose of promoting the Efficiency of the Militia, by enabling its officers to bring to the notice of the Minister of Militia and General Officer Commanding, matters on which the Association had obtained a Consensus of opinion. It was felt at the time that the Association could be of inestimable value to the General Officer Commanding in bringing the necessities of the force to his notice in a collective manner. The Minister of Militia approved of the objects of the Association. Circumstances having taken place in the interval between the organization of the Association, and the semi-annual meeting, by the retirement of the General Officer Commanding and the appointment of a successor in the person of Major General Hutton, C.B., A.D.C. to the Queen, the constitution was submitted to him and he was invited to attend the meeting. Major General Hutton having expressed a desire for certain changes in the Association's Constitution, an amended constitution was submitted to him which met his entire approval.

At the semi-annual meeting in August this amended constitution was unanimously passed and "The Field Officers Association of Canada" was merged into "The Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada."

The Field Officers' Association of Canada.

THE first annual meeting of the Field Officers' Association of Canada, was held at the Russell House, Ottawa, on Wednesday, August 31, at 9 o'clock p. m. There was a very good attendance of members from all over Canada. Lieut.-Col. John Bayne MacLean, secretary-treasurer, in opening the meeting, said, that the chairman, Lieut.-Col. Davidson, 48th Highlanders, Toronto, had telegraphed his deep regret at his inability to be present, and expressing his warmest sympathy and interest in the association. Col. MacLean then said, on behalf of the association, he extended a welcome to Major-General Hutton, who had been good enough to come to the meeting, and, perhaps, might favor them with a few remarks. He (Col. MacLean), with several other officers, had had an interview with General Hutton, who was kind enough to suggest certain changes in the constitution, which, in General Hutton's opinion,

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would strengthen the association, and, at the same time, enable him to take an active part in its deliberations and conclusions. In consequence of these suggestions a new constitution had been written and submitted to Major-General Hutton, who expressed his approval and warmest sympathy with it.

MAJOR-GENERAL HUTTON.

General Hutton upon the invitation of the chairman, made a speech which was received with general approval and cordial applause. He especially alluded to the appointment of the Earl of Minto as Governor-General, in wherein the Militia would find a strong and sympathetic friend.

The applause which followed this reference to Lord Aberdeen's successor showed that the Major-General has touched a responsive chord in the hearts of his hearers.

He then went on to say that this association could be of the greatest benefit to the militia force and he wished it every good luck in the world, and resumed his seat amidst loud and prolonged applause.

After the departure of Major-General Hutton, Lieut.-Col. MacLean invited the meeting to elect a chairman, so that they might proceed with their work.

Lieut.-Col. Starke moved, seconded by Major Piche, that Lieut.-Col. McLean, 62nd Fusilliers, St. John, N. B., be chairman.—Carried.

Lieut.-Col. J. B. MacLean, secretary-treasurer, then read the minutes, which were adopted. The report of the secretary-treasurer was read and adopted. It was as follows :

The Field Officers' Association of Canada.

MONTREAL, August 29, 1898.

To the Chairman and Members of the Field Officers' Association of Canada :

GENTLEMEN,—I have the honor to report that, in pursuance of Lieut.-Col. Starke's resolution, I had printed and sent to every field officer, a copy of the constitution, a circular letter inviting every field officer to become a member, and a blank subscription, giving name, rank, corps, and post office address, a copy of which, no doubt, each of you received.

Although this circular letter was sent out but on April 28 last, up to the present time, no less than 83 have become members by remitting their subscriptions.

I have received a large number of letters from officers all over Canada, expressing their interest and sympathy with the object of the association, and signifying their desire to join, but, as they have not remitted their subscriptions, I have not included this number as belonging to the association.

I am sure that it must be as gratifying to you as it is to me, to have the association meet with the approval and support of officers from one end of Canada to the other, and it places the association on a firm footing.

I wrote each member of the association, who was elected to the committee on organization, asking him to select a member as chairman. From the replies received, Lieut.-Col. John I. Davidson, 18th Highlanders, Toronto, received the greatest number of votes, and, in consequence, was elected chairman.

A statement of receipts and expenditure is as follows :

RECEIPTS.	
83 members at \$1.00	83.00
EXPENDITURE.	
Printing	\$11.80
Books, stationery and postage	9.37
	21.17
Cash, balance on hand	861.83

I have honor to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant

JOHN BAYNE MACLEAN, Lieut.-Col.,
Secretary-Treasurer.

The proposed constitution was then read and adopted as follows :

1.—TITLE.

The Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada.

2.—OBJECT.

To promote the general welfare of the militia force of Canada, the professional knowledge of its officers, and the military efficiency of all ranks.

3.—MEMBERS.

Militia officers of the Dominion of Canada shall be eligible for membership.

4.—PATRONS.

There may be a patron and a vice-patron.

5.—OFFICERS.

The officers of the association shall be a president, four vice-presidents and a secretary-treasurer. The president and vice-presidents, together with 10 others members elected for that purpose, shall form a council charged with the entire management of the association, five to form a quorum.

6.—THE COUNCIL.

The council shall hold such meetings at such time and place as may be considered necessary. They shall have the power to make, from time to time, rules and regulations for the management of the association, and to cancel or amend the same, and any such rules and regulations shall be binding on the association until amended or cancelled by the council or association.

7.—ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the association shall be held during the annual rifle meeting of the Dominion Rifle Association, at which meeting the council shall present a report, and the semi-annual meeting shall be held at the date of the annual meeting of the D.R.A.

8. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS.

Special general meetings may be called by the council at any time.

9.—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The president, vice-presidents and 10 members of the council shall be elected annually at the annual meeting. The secretary-treasurer shall be appointed by the council.

10.—FEES.

The membership fee shall be \$1 per annum from July 1.

Power was given the council to request Lord Minto, the new Governor-General, and the Hon. Dr. Borden, Minister of Militia, to become patron and vice-patron, respectively.

OFFICERS.

On motion of Lieut.-Col. Starke, Major-General Hutton, C.B., A.D.C., was unanimously elected president: The following were elected vice-presidents: Lieut.-Col. McLean, 62nd Fusiliers, St. John, N. B.; Lieut.-Col. Whitley, D. of C.R.C.H., Montreal; Lieut.-Col. Davidson, 48th Highlanders, Toronto, and Lieut.-Col. The Hon. J. M. Gibson, 13th Batt., Hamilton. The following were elected members of the council: Lieut.-Col. Mason, Royal Grenadiers, Toronto; Lieut.-Col. J. B. MacLean, D. of V.R.C.H., Montreal; Lieut.-Col. Labelle, 65th Batt., Montreal; Lieut.-Col. Jones, Royal Rifles, Quebec; Major MacDonald, 48th Highlanders, Toronto; Lieut.-Col. Starke, R.O., Montreal; Lieut.-Col. Bell, 57th Batt., Peterborough; Lieut.-Col. Busteed, Victoria Rifles, Montreal; Lieut.-Col. Hodgins, G.G.F.G., Ottawa; and Major Hendrie, 2nd Brigade Division, Field Artillery, Hamilton.

The meeting then adjourned.

COUNCIL MEETING.

At a meeting of the council, held immediately after the annual meeting, Lieut.-Col. John Bayne MacLean, Duke of York's Royal Canadian Hussars, Montreal, was elected secretary-treasurer.

Lieut.-Col. MacLean having, on Nov. 28th 1898, resigned his appointment as Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, the Council appointed Captain Francis Joseph Dixon, R.O., 305 Board of Trade, Montreal, as his successor.

EARNSLIFFE

OTTAWA, 11th February, 1899.

DEAR CAPTAIN DIXON :

In anticipation of the annual meeting of the Officers' Association at an early date I shall be glad if, as Honorary Secretary, you will take steps to submit the following remarks to the members of our council.

As President of the Officers' Association I am most anxious that the council and the members should very seriously consider the advisability of an amalgamation with the Canadian United Service Club. I feel most strongly that two bodies of officers organized for the same defined object of benefitting and improving the National Defence Force of the Dominion should identify their interests and amalgamate their several organizations.

Union is strength, and in no concern of life so truthfully as in things military.

The Canadian United Service Club have done me the honor of inviting me to become a Patron, so that as the Patron of one, and as President of the other of these two both valuable institutions, I feel that I am entitled to bring this important matter forward. I have the strongest conviction that we shall assist and benefit the Force to which we all belong far more effectively if these institutions form one body, and are actuated by one single impulse.

I have sent a similar communication to the Council of the Canadian United Service Club.

It is, I feel assured, quite unnecessary for me to say how heartily your Association has my very good wishes and hearty concurrence, which, however, will be doubly strong if I am able at an early date to congratulate the Canadian National Army of the future upon having a strong and combined Service Association for the mutual improvement and benefit of the Force generally.

I am, faithfully yours,

EDWARD T. H. HUTTON.

Major General, and A.D.C. to H.M. the Queen.

President Officers' Association, etc.

CAPTAIN DIXON,

Honorary-Secretary-Treasurer,

The Officers' Association of the Militia of Canada.

Gentlemen eligible for membership under the Constitution, and desirous of joining the Association, are requested to remit their subscriptions to Captain F. J. Dixon, Secretary-Treasurer, 505 Board of Trade, Montreal, Que.

